

Guard is adding another 1,400 recruits.

I want to be clear about this. Do not blame the recruiters. It is not their fault. They are doing what good soldiers do: follow orders. Being a recruiter used to be a plum job, reserved for only the best of the best. They were soldiers who were models for American military pride. But Rumsfeld has turned them into overworked, overstressed, overzealous representatives with quotas to fill and truth to stretch.

I want the U.S. military at its finest. I want recruiters back to what they can be: role models for America whether someone chooses to join the military or whether decides instead to be proud of the military.

We are not doing that today. We are taking names of literally every high school student in America. Demand that the No Child Left Behind Act apply only to education and not to recruiting. Until then, get the paperwork and opt out, either for yourself or your kid. You can find it at www.militaryfreezone.org. Let me give it again: www.militaryfreezone.org.

Take back your right to the personal privacy that used to be guaranteed by your government. Emiliano Santiago is looking forward to Christmas Eve 2031. That is when he is finally out of Rumsfeld's grasp. We used to have a voluntary military. Now we have Rumsfeld's military. It is a sentence to serve.

ILLINOIS TENTH DISTRICT STUDENTS AID TSUNAMI VICTIMS

THE SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DENT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of schools in the Tenth Congressional District of Illinois who together raised over \$600,000 for tsunami victims halfway around the world.

Student councils, community service clubs, entire students bodies from all around our district have held fundraising events and collections in ongoing efforts to benefit the American Red Cross, UNICEF and countless other relief organizations.

I want to highlight the work of Dan Klein, who attends St. Viator High School in Arlington Heights, Illinois, who set out modest goals for his work. Daniel took \$300 of his own money and with some help from his parents ordered 1,000 red rubber bracelets with "Students for Relief" embedded on them. Thinking he could send a small donation to the battered region from bracelet sales, Daniel's efforts led to anything but small. He has sold over 450,000 bracelets via his Web site, www.studentsforrelief.com, and raised over \$500,000 for tsunami victims.

Many other young people across my district exemplify American generosity. Prospect High School students in Prospect Heights raised over \$500,000

to help rebuild Nagapattinam, a small shoreline town in Southeast Asia where their school custodian is from.

Students at Loyola Academy and Regina Dominican High School in Wilmette raised a combination of \$14,000 for their relief efforts.

Deerfield High School students raised \$3,500 for the American Red Cross through bracelet sales.

Student council and Model U.N. organizations at Fremd High School in Palatine raised over \$500 for UNICEF.

Highland Park High School's Key Club and Transitional Program of Instruction raised \$570 for UNICEF.

Students organizations from Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook organized a 2-day fundraising drive that raised \$10,000 for the American Red Cross.

Students from Glenbrook South High School in Glenview raised over \$8,000 for the American Red Cross.

The Service Over Self Club at John Hersey High School in Arlington Heights raised \$1,500 for the Red Cross.

The student council and Red Cross Club at Lake Forest High School organized homeroom competitions and a number of themed events and dances raising \$5,000 for the Red Cross.

The Student Council at Libertyville High School raised nearly \$5,400 for Oxfam USA/International.

New Trier High School in Winnetka initiated a bracelet, pizza and bake sale, along with a study-a-thon netting over \$10,000 for relief efforts.

At Rolling Meadows High School the student council, National Honors Society, and Students Of Service raised \$2,000 for the Red Cross during their 2-week fund raising effort and also collected clothes, blankets, and other essentials.

In Lincolnshire Stevenson High School, they had a Penny Wars competition among freshmen, sophomore, junior, and seniors classes who collected \$5,300 for the American Red Cross.

Vernon Hill High School raised \$3,500 for efforts with Best Buy matching their donation with \$7,000 more.

In Gurnee, Warren Township High School's student council sponsored two fundraisers netting \$400 for the Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere, CARE International.

Elementary school children in my district also made substantial contributions.

First through eighth graders at Holy Cross School in Deerfield raised \$2,000 for tsunami relief efforts in conjunction with Catholic Charities Week.

Ariana Michel and Gabrielle Feldman of South Park Elementary School in Deerfield raised \$2,000 themselves in just 2 days selling bracelets.

In Northbrook, Westmoor, Greenbriar and Meadowbrook elementary schools raised over \$2,000 for the Red Cross.

Northbrook Junior High School students raised \$5,000 for the tsunami efforts.

Students at Wescott School in Northbrook raised \$2,700 for UNICEF.

Countryside Montessori School in Northbrook raised \$1,200 for the American Red Cross through a coffee and bake sale.

Eighth grade classes at Field School in Northbrook raised \$1,000 for the American Red Cross.

Elm Place School in Highland Park collected school supplies to fill 166 bags sent to students in Phuket, Thailand.

Fifth graders at Lincoln School in Highland Park organized a bake sale netting \$900 for the relief effort.

Jefferson School in Hoffman Estates raised \$2,200 from a wristband sale for tsunami victims.

In Libertyville, Copeland, Highland, Adler, Butterfield and Rockland elementary schools raised \$1,500 for relief efforts.

Winkleman Elementary School in Glenview raised \$2,000 through a rummage sale that will go to Heifer International. In addition, third grade classes at the school raised \$780 for the American Red Cross and made 45 fleece blankets for orphanages.

Kindergarten, first, and second grade classes at Lyons School in Glenview collected \$3,200 for the American Red Cross.

Students at Hawthorn Schools in Vernon Hills organized a district-wide bracelet sale raising \$12,000 for tsunami victims.

Deerpath Middle School in Lake Forest raised over \$1,600 for the American Red Cross.

The Lake Forest Country Day School held a dance marathon raising \$6,000 for the tsunami relief.

In addition, students Ian and Lane Mankoff of Lake Forest raised \$15,000 for the relief effort through a hot chocolate fundraiser.

St. Theresa School in Palatine raised \$6,400 for tsunami victims.

Mr. Speaker, the schools and students I mentioned have taken up the challenge of service with honor while representing their communities with distinction. I am honored to represent these schools that have shown the desire to make a difference in the lives of those ravaged by the tsunami. They not only represent the best of our communities, but they are what makes our country strong. Thank you for the opportunity to recognize these outstanding student and schools of the 10th district of Illinois.

All of these efforts I think exemplify the best that is in the American spirit. And it is so heartening to see the youngest Americans giving the most, showing people across the world that they have never met what Americans can do.

HONORING ULYSSES BRADSHAW KINSEY

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WATSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a recently deceased great American, Ulysses Bradshaw Kinsey.

As a boy, Mr. Kinsey grew up on a large farm where he shared responsibilities with his older siblings. Mr. Kinsey's values of fairness, compassion, and personal integrity were learned from his father and mother. He closely observed and admired his beloved father's fair treatment of people regardless of race and stature. He also admired his mother for her kindness and compassion towards others. This strong foundation would become the basis for Mr. Kinsey's personal and professional values.

While attending Florida A&M, he met and married his wife of 63 years. With their children they were loving and unfailing in their devotion. Mr. Kinsey believed that the best way to love his children was to love their mother. He encouraged independence of action and attitude while loyally supporting them and allowing them to develop in directions of their own choosing.

At the same time, he set well-defined limits that were firm and consistent. Mr. Kinsey's focus on the individual development and welfare of each child was transferred to his professional life in a long distinguished career as an educator. In 1941, he began his career as a social studies and history teacher at his high school alma mater. By 1943, he became assistant principal and also served as school treasurer, junior class sponsor, and athletic director.

In September of 1950, at the birth of his sixth child, Mr. Kinsey became principal of Palmview Elementary School, formerly an industrial high school. And by 1953, he had earned his masters degree in education and supervision from Florida A&M college. He also attended Lincoln University Law School in St. Louis, Missouri, during his summer vacations and completed his legal education.

Although Mr. Kinsey decided to become an educator partly because of the financial demands of a growing family, he never regretted that decision; and that decision was a fortunate one for the thousands of children who passed through Palmview's doors during Mr. Kinsey's long tenure as a principal.

As a leader, he focused on two rudiments of education, one, critical thinking through the development of reading and writing skills, and quantitative reasoning. His emphasis on these educational basics may explain why Palmview Elementary School, an institution located in an inner-city community with an 86 percent African American student population, was so hotly pursued by suburban parents during the early turbulent days of integration in the South.

Palmview, an educational oasis, was distinguished from other schools by its clean, safe environment, intensive extra-curricular activities in art and music and computers in the classrooms.

With a calm, careful demeanor, Mr. Kinsey led the way academically, not only for African American children but

also for all children in West Palm Beach County.

His impact on his community also influenced many others beyond the children who became part of the Palmview family. His work as a community organizer and leader began in the early 1940s. U.B., along with other African American educators, employed Thurgood Marshall and he was successful in bringing integration of the teachers and giving them the back pay they deserved.

His contributions are countless to education and he serves as a role model for others and leaves a very rich legacy.

POSITIVE IRAQ WAR EFFORTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, so often when we hear of events in the Middle East the reports are negative, sometimes even the discussion on the floor reflects a great deal of negativism.

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Recently, I led a delegation to Jordan and Iraq and later to Germany. Matter of fact, we just returned yesterday. And I thought I would report on what I saw there because so often soldiers say we really wish you would go back and tell the American people the war we are fighting and not the one that they see on television or in the newspapers.

So, on previous trips, I had been amazed at how positive the morale was. Everyplace that I went, soldiers seemed to be rather upbeat, pulled together, seemed to have a sense of mission.

As we flew into the Al Asad, which is a somewhat remote base about 90 miles west of Baghdad out in the desert, extreme cold, no vegetation, no trees, no grass, as we landed there in the dust and the sand, I thought, this is the place where we are going to see some people who are really pretty negative about what is going on, and I was really surprised.

There were 180 Nebraskans from my home State there. That is why I went there. They had not had a CODEL there for at least 9 months, maybe never there. And again I saw the same thing, a sense of accomplishment, a real sense of pride in what they were doing. I pressed them, and I talked to them, and I still got no negative comments and no major complaints.

We went on down to Baghdad, and we talked to General Petraeus, who is in charge of training the Iraqi soldiers, and General Casey, who is in charge of the overall command there. General Casey made the point that the infrastructure still needs improving. Obviously, the electricity is better, but it is still not working all the time. Sewage at times is not what it should be; and, at times, their oil pipelines are getting

blown up. But, again, there is general improvement, but they both said the January 30 elections were truly a watershed event. Since that time, there has been a definite qualitative shift in what is happening in Iraq.

I thought I would just point out some of the things that we were told and some of the things that we observed.

General Casey said, and General Petraeus as well, that by the end of the year Iraqi troops should be out in front in all concentrations in Iraq. They would have, in many cases, U.S. backup, but there are right now several areas of Iraq that are totally controlled, with no U.S. backup, by Iraqi forces. So the training of the Iraqis has been excellent.

The Iraqi intelligence is improving. Many Iraqis are now coming forward with information regarding insurgents that were not coming forward before. The attacks have been reduced, and the Iraqis are certainly much more confident of their future.

Apparently, many of the Sunnis are regretting not having participated in the elections, and at this point they are beginning to volunteer for the army, for the police, which was something that was unheard of a few months ago, and the Sunnis are pressing to get a place at the table in the new government.

There is no shortage of Iraqi recruits apparent at the present time. There are roughly 100 battalions of army Iraqis, 152,000 total have been trained and equipped, 85,000 police, 67,000 members of the army. The Iraqis have been provided with up-armored vehicles, body armor, about 130,000 sets. So they are well over halfway to their goal of 270,000 Iraqi soldiers trained.

Also, the Iraqis are performing much better, whether they are policemen or soldiers. The recent instigation or uprising in downtown Baghdad by al Sadr, where we have several thousands of his supporters demonstrating, it was well-orchestrated, but the thing that we did not hear was that whole situation was controlled by Iraqi police, with no U.S. backup, and so we find that they are much in control of the situation.

We also had a chance to talk to Mr. al Jafari, the prime minister. When we asked him what he wanted to say to the American people, he had just been installed as prime minister the day before we saw him, he said, the thing I would like to say is we owe a debt of gratitude to the United States and particularly for the loss of soldiers. He said, when you sent your soldiers over here and the sacrifices they made, it is something we can never forget, and that we will always be grateful for.

We asked him if he would have an inclusive government, if he would include the Kurds and Sunnis and Shiites. He said he would, and that remains to be seen, because he is linked with a very conservative Islamic Shiite party that has some ties to Iran. So I guess the proof will be in the pudding,